

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (original). A vacuum cleaner, comprising:

an appliance housing defining a dust collection compartment;

a dust bag removably inserted into said dust collection compartment and having a reinforcing plate with a clip;

a movable cover selectively opening and closing said dust collection compartment; and

a pivotable fixture connected to said reinforcing plate, said fixture having lateral guide elements and a surface shaped in at least one of the group consisting of a funnel and a trapezoid, said surface and said lateral guide elements bearing said clip of said reinforcing plate.

2 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 1, wherein:

said fixture has projections; and

said clip has lateral recesses in which said projections engage.

3 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 1, wherein:

said cover has an adjustment range with at least first and second positions;

a locking member pivots in a direction of said adjustment range of said cover;

said cover swings into:

a first position where said locking member prevents said cover from closing when said reinforcing plate is absent; and

a second position where said locking member permits closure of said cover when said reinforcing plate is in use;

a spring is provided and produces a bias force; and

said fixture is swivel-mounted against said bias force of said spring.

4 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 3,
wherein:

said cover has a closing range; and

said locking member is a projection attached to at least one
of said guide elements and projects into said closing range of
said cover when said reinforcing plate is absent.

5 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 3,
wherein said spring is a leaf spring.

6 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 2,
wherein:

said cover has an adjustment range with at least first and
second positions;

a locking member pivots in a direction of said adjustment
range of said cover;

said cover swings into:

a first position where said locking member prevents said cover from closing when said reinforcing plate is absent; and

a second position where said locking member permits closure of said cover when said reinforcing plate is in use;

a spring is provided and produces a bias force; and

said fixture is swivel-mounted against said bias force of said spring.

7 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 6, wherein:

said cover has a closing range; and

said locking member is a projection attached to at least one of said guide elements and projects into said closing range of said cover when said reinforcing plate is absent.

8 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 6, wherein said spring is a leaf spring.

9 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 3,
wherein:

said cover has an air inlet connector; and

said reinforcing plate swivels into said second position by
said air inlet connector during closing of said cover.

10 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 6,
wherein:

said cover has an air inlet connector; and

said reinforcing plate swivels into said second position by
said air inlet connector during closing of said cover.

11 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 1,
wherein:

said reinforcing plate has an upper edge; and

said cover has an inside surface with notching thereon for
catching said upper edge of said reinforcing plate.

12 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 3,
wherein:

said reinforcing plate has an upper edge; and

said cover has an inside surface with notching thereon for catching said upper edge of said reinforcing plate.

13 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 6, wherein:

said reinforcing plate has an upper edge; and

said cover has an inside surface with notching thereon for catching said upper edge of said reinforcing plate.

14 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 1, wherein:

said cover has an air inlet connector; and

said reinforcing plate has:

an upper edge; and

an air inlet opening with a lower region and an edge running parallel to said upper edge in said lower region,

said reinforcing plate moving downwards by contact
between said air inlet connector and said edge.

15 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 9,
wherein:

said reinforcing plate has:

an upper edge; and

an air inlet opening with a lower region and an edge
running parallel to said upper edge in said lower region,
said reinforcing plate moving downwards by contact
between said air inlet connector and said edge.

16 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 10,
wherein:

said reinforcing plate has:

an upper edge; and

an air inlet opening with a lower region and an edge
running parallel to said upper edge in said lower region,
said reinforcing plate moving downwards by contact
between said air inlet connector and said edge.

17 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 1,
wherein:

said reinforcing plate has an underside and said clip is
disposed on said underside; and

said clip tapers downwards in a shape selected from at least
one of the group consisting of a funnel and a trapezoid.

18 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 1,
wherein:

said reinforcing plate has an underside and said clip is
disposed on said underside; and

said reinforcing plate tapers downwards in a shape selected
from at least one of the group consisting of a funnel and a
trapezoid.

19 (original). A vacuum cleaner, comprising:

an appliance housing defining a dust collection compartment
for removably receiving a dust bag therein, said dust bag
having a reinforcing plate with a clip;

a movable cover selectively opening and closing said dust collection compartment; and

a pivotable fixture to be connected to the reinforcing plate of the dust bag, said fixture having lateral guide elements and a surface shaped in at least one of the group consisting of a funnel and a trapezoid, said surface and said lateral guide elements configured to bear the clip of the reinforcing plate.

20 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 19, further comprising:

said dust bag, said dust bag having said reinforcing plate with an underside and said clip disposed on said underside; and

said reinforcing plate tapering downwards in a shape selected from at least one of the group consisting of a funnel and a trapezoid.

21 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 19, further comprising:

said dust bag, said dust bag having said reinforcing plate with an underside and said clip disposed on said underside; and

said clip tapering downwards in a shape selected from at least one of the group consisting of a funnel and a trapezoid.

22 (original). A vacuum cleaner, comprising:

an appliance housing defining a dust collection compartment;

a dust bag removably inserted into said dust collection compartment and having a reinforcing plate with a clip;

a movable cover selectively opening and closing said dust collection compartment; and

a pivotable fixture connected to said reinforcing plate, said fixture having lateral guide elements and a surface shaped in at least one of the group consisting of a funnel and a trapezoid for bearing said clip of said reinforcing plate.

23 (original). In a vacuum cleaner having an appliance housing defining a dust collection compartment for removably receiving a dust bag, the dust bag having a reinforcing plate with a clip, a bag holding configuration comprising:

a movable cover selectively opening and closing the dust collection compartment; and

a pivotable fixture connected to the reinforcing plate of the dust bag, said fixture having lateral guide elements and a surface shaped in at least one of the group consisting of a funnel and a trapezoid, said surface and said lateral guide elements bearing the clip of the reinforcing plate.

24 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 3, wherein said locking member swivels with said fixture.

25 (original). The vacuum cleaner according to claim 6, wherein said locking member swivels with said fixture.

26 (new). A dust collector for insertion into a vacuum cleaner having an instrument housing defining a dust collection compartment therein and having a cover, comprising:

a dust bag to be inserted into the dust collection compartment and to be closed by the cover, said dust bag having:

a reinforcing plate having an underside;

a clip disposed on said underside of said reinforcing plate and tapering downward in a shape selected from one of the group consisting of a funnel and a trapezoid; and

a pivotable fixture operatively connected to said reinforcing plate, said fixture having lateral guide strips and a surface having a shape for bearing said clip selected from one of the group consisting of a funnel and trapezoid.

27 (new). The dust bag according to claim 26, wherein said clip has lateral recesses.

28 (new). The dust bag according to claim 26, wherein:

said reinforcing plate has an air inlet opening with a lower part; and

said air inlet opening has a straight edge in said lower part.

29 (new). The dust bag according to claim 28, wherein:

said reinforcing plate has an upper edge; and

said straight edge extends in parallel with said upper edge.

30 (new). The dust bag according to claim 28, wherein:

the cover has an inlet connector; and

said air inlet opening has a rubber seal airtightly
terminating opposite the inlet connector.

31 (new). The dust bag according to claim 28, wherein:

the cover has an inlet connector; and

said air inlet opening has a rubber seal terminating
airtightly opposite the inlet connector.

32 (new). The dust bag according to claim 26, wherein said
reinforcing plate defines a grip opening.

33 (new). In a vacuum cleaner with an instrument housing
defining a dust collection compartment therein and having a
cover, a dust collector to be inserted into the housing
comprising:

a dust bag inserted into the dust collection compartment and
closed by the cover, said dust bag having:

a reinforcing plate having an underside;

a clip disposed on said underside of said reinforcing plate and tapering downward in a shape selected from one of the group consisting of a funnel and a trapezoid; and

a pivotable fixture operatively connected to said reinforcing plate, said fixture having lateral guide strips and a surface having a shape for bearing said clip selected from one of the group consisting of a funnel and trapezoid.